The suggestions made by the Standing Committee have been examined in the Department of Development of North Eastern Region and recommendations of the Department have been referred to the Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Planning Commission and Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs (Department of Legal Affairs and Legislative Department) for their views. These Ministries/Departments have been reminded to expedite their views.

For the reasons stated, above, the Bill is not likely to be introduced during the ongoing Budget Session.

Amount Transferred to Non-Lapsable Pool

4801. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) the list of Ministries which have not complied with national commitment through various PN's Special Packages for NER indicating actual percentage of budgetary provisions made, utilized and amount transferred to non-lapsable pool of resources during last three financial years; and

(b) the action taken on 'Ministries/Departments' not complying with this national commitment?

THE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) No information is available about any 'MP's Special Packages' for North Eastern Region (NER).

(d) Does not arise.

Disinvestment of NLC

4802. SHRI C.RAMACHANDRAIAH:
PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM:

Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Disinvestment Commission has recommended disinvestment in Neyveli Lignite Corporation (NLC);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether NLC is a profit-making PSU in Tamil Nadu;

(d) if so, the reasons for disinvestment of profit making PSU; and

(e) the policy enunciated by Govemment in regard to disinvestment in profit-making PSUs?

THE MINISTER OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Disinvestment Commission in its 13th Report given in January 2002 has recommended for disinvestment upto 51% equity in Neyveli Lignite Corporation (NLC) in favour of a strategic partner, if there is no legal hurdle to do so. In case of a legal hurdle, at least 49% of equity should be disinvested in the first instance.

(c) to (e)The NLC is a profit earning PSU. Disinvestment in Public Sector Undertakings is done as per the declared policy of the Govemment to bring down the Govemment equity of 26% or below in all non-strategic PSUs, in the generality of the cases. In the case of strategic Public Sector Undertakings. The Govemment will continue to retain majority holding. This Policy is applicable to all the PSUs whether they are profit making or not. There is no separate policy exclusively for profit making PSUs.

Disinvestment Policy

†4803. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Govemment ignore the basic facts while carrying out disinvestment/privatisation;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the main issues Govemment consider while adopting policies for privatisation; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that instead of competing with full potential in world market we are selling out factories and income generating sources to the rich nations of the world?

THE MINISTER OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Disinvestment process is an on-going process. Each transaction has to go through an elaborate process of participative decision making i.e. detailed

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.